

Hardwoods: Oak – White (USA)



Trade Name:	Oak American White
Botanical Species:	Quercus spp.
Other Names:	Chestnut Oak
Country of Origin:	U.S.A.
Air Dry Density:	735kgs/m ³
Durability:	Durable
Colour:	Medium
Strength:	8+ (on a scale of 1 – 10)



Seasoning:

- The timber seasons fairly slowly with a tendency to check and split.

Characteristics:

- American White Oak resembles European Oak, being a mixture of species. However it is more variable in colour, pale yellowish-brown to mid-brown. It varies also in quality according to the locality; thus Oak from Canada and the Northern USA is generally harder and heavier than that from the Southern States.
- The characteristic silver grain figure, due to the broad rays, is shown to advantage on quarter cut material.
- The grain is generally straight and the texture varies from coarse to medium coarse.



Working Qualities:

- Considering its density, the timber can be worked fairly readily, taking a smooth finish.
- The timber can be glued, stained and polished and takes nails and screws well.
- In common with other species of Oak, White Oak corrodes metals, particularly iron, steel and lead.
- Blue-black discolourations from the tannic acid in the wood are liable to develop when it is in contact with iron or iron compounds under damp conditions and PVA glues.
- Use of non-ferrous metals for fastening and fittings is recommended.

Uses:

- Because of its good all-round strength and resistance to decay, White Oak is used for a wide range of constructional work, including ship and boat building.

- It is traditional for high-grade furniture, interior woodwork and flooring.
- Because of its impermeability, the timber is suitable for vats and casks for holding liquids such as wine and spirits.

Product Attributes:

- Pale cream to yellowish brown sometimes with a pink tinge.
- Distinctive grain feature.
- Takes stain and polish well.
- Grain is generally straight with a medium to coarse texture.
- Machines and turns well.

Product Limitations

- Random widths.
- Can corrode iron, steels and lead.
- American grading rules apply.